

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06462 292130Z
ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 ABF-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01
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FOR D/HA- CARLIN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNHCR XC
SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIA ITEM IN UNHCR 1978 BUDGET

REF: BRENNAN/CARLIN TELECON JULY 29

1. UNHCR HEADQUARTERS HAS BROUGHT TO MISSION'S ATTENTION ITS INTENTION TO SHOW ITS PROGRAM IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR INDOCHINESE REFUGEES AS AN ITEM UNDER THE SPECIAL, RATHER THAN THE REGULAR PROGRAM. THE DRAFT BUDGET WILL, HOWEVER, BE FOOTNOTED WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMENT: QTE THE HIGH COMMISSIONER WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR THE COMMITTEE'S COMMENTS ON THIS PRESENTATION SO AS TO MAKE APPROPRIATE CHANGES IF DESIRED. FURTHERMORE, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND TO EXPRESS THEIR PREFERENCE WHETHER ANY COUNTRY OR AREA OR PROJECTS SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE GENERAL TO THE SPECIAL PROGRAM OR VICE VERSA. UNQTE.

2. AWARE OF OUR STRONG PREFERENCE THAT THE INDOCHINESE PROGRAM BE SHOWN AS A REGULAR BUDGET ITEM UNHCR DEPHGCOMM MACE EXPLAINED THAT HGCOMM AND OTHER UNHCR OFFICERS FELT THAT ALGERIANS, FOR INSTANCE,
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MIGHT PRESS TO INCLUDE SAHRAOUIDI REFUGEE PROGRAM AS REGULAR ITEM ALSO, WHICH WOULD LEAD TO POLITICALLY CHARGED CONFLICT IN EXCOM WITH MOROCCANS AND MAURITANIANS. THEIR BELIEF IS THAT ISSUE WOULD BE HIGHLIGHTED LESS IF HANDLED AS FOOTNOTED ITEM INDICATED ABOVE. MISOFF DISAGREED STRONGLY, GIVING HIS JUDGMENT THAT, IF ANYTHINGN SUCH PROCEDURE WOULD SERVE ONLY TO

FOCUS GREATER ATTENTION ON THE ISSUE AND REDUCE PROSPECTS FOR ITS NONCONTROVERSIAL ADOPTION. MACE SAID THAT, PERSONALLY, HE AGREED WITH THIS POINT OF VIEW, AND HAD SO ARGUED, BUT HAD BEEN OVERCOME. HE URGED THAT, IN THE INTEREST OF PUTTING THE BUDGET PRESENTATION TO BED IN GOOD TIME, WE ACCEPT IT IN ITS PRESENT FORM. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE IN WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 10 TO 12 AND WOULD OUTLINE TO D/HA A METHOD BY WHICH HE FELT THE INDOCHINA PROGRAM COULD QUIETLY BE TRANSFERRED TO THE REGULAR BUDGET WITHOUT CONTROVERSY IN COMMITTEE.

3. COMMENT: IT IS OUR JUDGEMENT THAT, RATHER THAN THE REASON GIVEN, OR PERHAPS COMPLEMENTARY TO IT, UNHCR'S REAL PROBLEM WITH PRESENTING THE INDOCHINESE PROGRAM IN THE REGULAR BUDGET IS THAT IT WOULD ADD A DISPROPORTIONATELY LARGE COST TO THE PRESENT REGULAR BUDGET, THEREBY ATTRACTING THE ATTENTION OF MEMBER STATES.

4. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE WHETHER TO PURSUE THE MATTER FURTHER WITH UNHCR HERE.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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